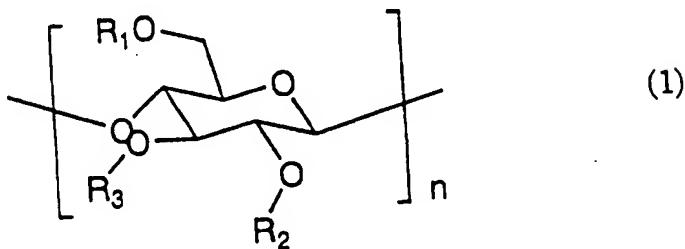


Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims

1. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal mixed-composition comprising the cellulose derivative which has the following structure:



wherein R_1 , R_2 and R_3 , which may be the same or different, respectively represent a member selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, an acyloxyalkyl group and a carbamoyloxyalkyl group, provided that R_1 , R_2 and R_3 are not all hydrogen atoms and n denotes an integer of 10 or more; and one or more liquid crystal compounds which can be oriented in a specific direction differing from said cellulose derivative.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 1-~~or~~-2, wherein the liquid crystal compound which can be oriented to the specific direction is a low-molecular liquid crystal compound having thermotropic liquid crystalline properties and exhibiting a nematic phase ~~a molecular weight of 1000 or less.~~

6. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 5, wherein the low-molecular liquid crystal compound is a ~~(meth)acrylate~~ an acrylate liquid crystal compound.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A lyotropic liquid crystal mixed-composition wherein the lyotropic liquid crystal mixed-composition comprises the mixed-composition according to claim 1-~~or~~-2, and an organic solvent, and exhibits a lyotropic liquid crystal state.

9. (Currently amended) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim ~~8~~ 1, wherein the composition further comprises a reactive compound and a photoinitiator.

10. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 9, wherein the reactive compound is a (meth)acryl compound.

11. (Currently amended) A retardation film produced from the liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein the liquid crystal mixed-composition is oriented in a specific direction.

12. (Previously presented) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the relation $Re450 \leq Re550 \leq Re650$ is established between the retardation value ($Re450$) measured at a wavelength of 450 nm, the retardation value ($Re550$) measured at a wavelength of 550 nm and the retardation value ($Re650$) measured at a wavelength of 650 nm.

13. (Currently amended) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the film is produced by forming a layer of the liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim

1-~~or~~-2 on a rubbing treatment substrate for orientation of the liquid crystal.

14. (Previously presented) The retardation film according to claim 13, wherein the orientation of the liquid crystal mixed-composition is fixed.

15. (Previously presented) The retardation film according to claim 11, wherein the film has a retardation of a quarter wavelength or a half wavelength.

16. (Previously presented) A circularly or elliptically polarizing film or a rotatory polarizing film obtained by laminating the retardation film according to claim 11 and a polarizing film.

17. (Previously presented) An image display device having the retardation film as claimed in according to claim 11.

18. (Currently amended) A method of producing the retardation film according to claim 13, characterized by forming a layer with the liquid crystal mixed-composition according to claim 1-~~or~~-2 on a rubbing treatment substrate, followed by heat treatment.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) An image display device having the circularly or elliptically polarizing film or the rotatory polarizing film according to claim 16.